

The Inauguration of
SIDNEY LEWIS HARRIS

as President of
Clarke College
Newton, Mississippi

The First of April
Nineteen Hundred and
Seventy-Eight



Sidney Lewis Harris

S. L. Harris is a Texan by birth and rearing, having been born in the western part of the state and reared in Central Texas. His parents, Samuel Lee and Bertha Johnson Harris, were natives of the Austin, Texas area and reared their son and daughter, Arline, in and around the capital city.

Dr. Harris graduated from Austin High School and entered Howard Payne University to study for the ministry, where he received the B.A. degree in 1948. Continuing his study for the ministry he enrolled in Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, graduating with the B.D. degree in 1952. While serving as Director of the Baptist Student Union and Associate Professor of Bible at Sam Houston State University, Dr. Harris began work on the M.A. degree in Sociology, completing the program in 1961. In 1976 he earned the Doctor of Arts degree in Sociology at Western Col-

orado University. Other study was done at East Texas State University and Texas Tech University.

The initial phase of his career was spent in pastoring Baptist churches in Texas, the last being the Woodlawn Baptist Church in Austin. In 1953 he began his career in higher education, serving twelve years in campus ministry and Bible teaching at Sam Houston State University and Texas Tech University. At Texas Tech he was named Chairman of the Department of Biblical Literature. This was followed by service as Dean of Students and instructor in Sociology at Wayland Baptist College. He left the campus scene for a brief time to serve as an Administrative Consultant with the Student Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tennessee but returned to teaching and counseling with the opening of the Northeast Campus of Tarrant County Junior College, Fort Worth, Texas in 1968. After nine years there he was elected to the presidency of Clarke College on April 14, 1977, assuming his duties in mid-July.

Dr. Harris is the author of and contributor to a number of books on leadership, the campus ministry, and related areas. He has written numerous articles which have been published in a variety of periodicals and is a curriculum writer for the young adult section of the Baptist Sunday School Board. He has been active in religious and civic organizations and maintained membership in several professional organizations throughout his career. A number of reference works, including *Who's Who in the South and Southwest*, have cited him. In 1972 he was named an "Outstanding Educator in America."

Mrs. Harris, the former Fleta Nell Lindley of Yantis, Texas, has assisted him since their marriage in 1948. She holds the B.A. and M.S.L.S. degrees from Howard Payne University and East Texas State University respectively. Dr. and Mrs. Harris are the parents of three daughters: Emily Ann (Mrs. S. E. Mills, Jr.) of Clarksville, Tennessee; Donna Carol, a teacher in Hale Center, Texas; and Paula Karen, a junior at Howard Payne University. They have one grandson, Samuel Edgar Mills, III.

Dr. Harris came to the presidency of Clarke College upon the retirement of Dr. W. L. Compere. With family roots reaching back to Alabama, Tennessee, and Kentucky he and Mrs. Harris are reclaiming a part of their Southern heritage as Mississippians. Having felt led of God to this place of service, Dr. Harris has committed himself to the challenge of bringing Clarke College to its rightful place as a leader in Christian higher education.

PRELUDE

Concerto del Sigr. Meck in
B Minor Walther
Allegro
Adagio
Allegro

PROCESSIONAL Mrs. Mary Vermillion, Organist
Voluntary in C Major Purcell Instructor of Music, Clarke College

WELCOME Dr. A. C. Johnson, Presiding
Chairperson, Division of
Social Science & Business
Clarke College

INVOCATION Dr. W. L. Compere
President Emeritus
Clarke College

SCRIPTURE Rev. Hardy Denham, Pastor
First Baptist Church
Newton, Mississippi

GREETINGS TO PRESIDENT

Faculty Dr. Mary Jayne Myers, Chairperson
Division of Natural Science & Math
Clarke College

Students Douglas Broome, President
Student Body Association
Clarke College

Academic Community Dr. Lewis Nobles, President
Mississippi College
Clinton, Mississippi

Southern Baptist Education Commission .. Dr. George F. Capps, Jr.
Associate Executive Director
Education Commission
Southern Baptist Convention
Nashville, Tennessee

CLARKE COLLEGE CHOIR Mr. Clark Adams, Director of
Sing To The Lord With Joy And Choir; Acting Chairperson,
Gladness Haydn-Ehret Division of Language & Arts
Clarke College

Sing to the Lord with joy and gladness,
Sing to the Lord Jehovah, shout in joyful praise.
Thou alone art just, just and merciful,
Thou alone art gracious.

We praise Thy name, we give thanks
Unto Thee, Lord, we worship Thee,
We glorify Thy name, O God of Israel.

INVESTITURE

Charge Rev. Kermit D. McGregor, Chairman
Education Commission of the
Mississippi Baptist Convention;
Pastor, Temple Baptist Church
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Investiture M. L. Flynt, M.D., Chairman
Board of Trustees
Meridian, Mississippi

Prayer Dr. John Claypool, Pastor
Northminster Baptist Church
Jackson, Mississippi

INAUGURAL RESPONSE Dr. Sidney Lewis Harris, President
Clarke College

BENEDICTION Dr. Herman A. Milner, Vice-Chairman
Board of Trustees; Pastor,
Van Winkle Baptist Church
Jackson, Mississippi

RECESSIONAL Mrs. Mary Vermillion
Psalm XIX Marcello

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Ray P. Rust, President
Baylor University
William Eugene Ballou, Alumnus
Blue Mountain College
William N. Washburn, Dean
Carson-Newman College
W. Douglas Hudgins, Alumnus
Copiah-Lincoln Junior College
Billy B. Thames, President
Delta State University
Jack Winton Gunn, Dean
East Central Junior College
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Hannibal-LaGrange College
Gerald E. Martin, President
Hardin-Simmons University
James William Glass, Alumnus
Jones County Junior College
Terrell Tisdale, President
Louisiana College
Robert L. Lynn, President
Mary Hardin-Baylor College
Glenna Morgan Stamps, Alumna
Mary Holmes College
Lucious Daily, Assistant
to the President
Mercer University
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Meridian Junior College
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Mississippi College
Lewis Nobles, President
Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College
Robert L. Johnson, Executive Assistant

Mississippi State University
James Douglas McComas, President
Ministerial Institute and College
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Northeast Mississippi Junior College
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Prentiss Normal and Industrial Institute
N. R. Burger, Trustee
Rust College
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Southwest Mississippi Junior College
Norman Miller, Dean
Tougaloo College
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Union University
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University of Mississippi
John Elon Phay, Director of
Institutional Research
University of Richmond
Cyrus Hudson Lansdell, Alumnus
University of Southern Mississippi
Aubrey K. Lucas, President
Wayland Baptist College
Jerrell Talmadge Pannell, Alumnus
Wesley Biblical Seminary
Delbert R. Rose, Vice-President,
Academic Affairs
Wesley College
Victor R. Vaughn, Administrative
Advisor to President
William Carey College
Joseph M. Ernest, Jr., Dean
Wood Junior College
Felix Sutphin, President

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Auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention
Brooks Wester, Member
Executive Committee of
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Department of Student Work
Mississippi Baptist Convention
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